

From the Boston Recorder.
Exhibition of the Pupils of the Institution
for the Blind.

On Thursday afternoon last, some thirty of the pupils of the South Boston Institution for the Education of the Blind, gave an exhibition of their attainments at the State-house before the Legislative Committee on Public Charitable Institutions. The exhibition was conducted by Dr. Howe, and his assistant instructors. The spacious hall, the Representatives' Chamber, was crowded by members of the Legislature and gentlemen and ladies of the city. The pupils were seated on an elevated platform, on which were books, maps, astronomical and other apparatus used by the blind, musical instruments, &c.

In a few introductory observations, Doctor Howe explained the methods employed for communicating instruction to the blind through the sense of touch, and remarked that the only difference between the methods employed for instructing the blind, and seeing persons, was that the one was adapted to the sense of touch, and the other to the sense of sight. He then exhibited one of the books printed in raised letters, and observed that each person could, by a glance at this volume, readily understand the process by which the mind of the blind could be reached and instructed through the medium of tangible characters. Globes, maps, mathematical diagrams, &c., &c. are all addressed to the sense of touch in the manner that books for the blind are; and by the employment of these, and by oral teaching, the blind are capable of high attainments in almost every branch of knowledge. Three small girls from 9 to 10 years of age were brought forward to read. Dr. Howe requested some one of the audience to name any portion of the New Testament for the pupils to read. The 14th chapter of John and the 15th of Matthew were named. These chapters the girls readily found by feeling, and read portions of them by passing their fingers over the raised letters. They read without hesitation, each alternately a verse, and with an emphasis indicative of a perfect comprehension of the meaning of the words read. Each one of them read as rapidly as a clergyman usually reads from the pulpit! This exercise was touchingly interesting, and caused a grateful tear to flow from many eyes. The idea, the perfect demonstration, that those sightless children were able to read God's written word, could not but fill the Christian's heart with gratitude.

A number of the pupils of both sexes were now exercised in arithmetic, and answered many questions put to them, which in their solution required great power of mental calculation. The following was one of the questions which they were requested to answer: "If 1-5th of the people now in the house, are in the eastern gallery; 1-6th in the western; 1-3d on the floor of the Representatives' Hall; 1-4th in the Senate Chamber, and the remainder, amounting to 60, are on the stage, how many persons are there in the house?" This problem was answered by a young lad in a space of time almost as brief, as that required for its proposal. The lad solved the problem by the mental process, unaided by slate or pencil. Other and more difficult questions were solved by the pupils by the numerical and algebraical process, and this part of the exhibition demonstrated the great capacity the blind person has for mathematical studies. Two or three pieces of music were now sung by the pupils with taste and judgment, one of their number presiding at the piano-forte. Geography and astronomy were the next subjects in which the pupils were examined; and to these as in reading and mathematics, they showed great proficiency. This part of the examination was conducted by Mr. Park, and Miss Carter, both blind, who have been educated at and are now instructors in the institution.

Two pupils were now brought forward, who created the liveliest interest in the audience. We allude to Laura Bridgeman and Oliver Caswell, who are deaf and dumb as well as blind. Laura was in fine spirits and full of playfulness. She is now 15 years old, has a beautifully modelled head, and a most attractive and expressive countenance. Her form is rather slender—but she is graceful in all her movements, and her step is firm and fearless. Oliver, who is also 15 years old, is rather small in stature, and has a face indicative of much intelligence and benevolence.—He has much more of the sedateness of the philosopher in his manner than Laura has, but less of the restless activity of mind. Both have been taught to converse by the manual alphabet and to read in books printed for the blind. They have also been instructed in geography and arithmetic, and some other branches, and both are able to write a fair legible hand, and to correspond with their friends at a distance. Many specimens of their writing, executed during the exhibition, were distributed to the audience. Many questions were asked Laura, for the purpose of testing her powers, and her answers to some of them were amusing. Being asked for what purpose she supposed the people in the hall came for, she replied in the tongue language, thus: "The ladies came to witness our exhibition, and the gentlemen for amusement." And being informed that one of the editors of the daily press was here taking notes of the exhibition, she wrote the following on a strip of paper, and sent it to the editor. "I hope that the man will write a good account to please people." The exhibition continued till dark, and finally closed by instrumental music by a band of 15 pupils.—The whole performance was highly interesting, and never on any similar exhibition, have we been more impressed with the good which the institution at South Boston is conferring on those who resort to it for instruction.—There are great numbers of blind children scattered through New England who ought to be sent to this school. And we could urge every clergyman who knows of the existence of such children, to use his influence to have them sent.

Under Bonds to Keep the Peace.
AMERICAN INDEBTEDNESS TO ENGLAND.—It appears from a tabular statement in a London paper, that different states of our nation owe, for money borrowed in Great Britain alone, no less than \$181,000,000!—there is some consolation even in this; it forms in truth a pledge of peace between the two countries. Canning once said millions sterling, nearly \$4,000,000,000, to keep the peace of Europe; and on this principle, every international debt is a bond interwining their interests; and such interwining of any interests, personal or pecuniary, religious or political, will increase aversion to war.—*Advocate of Peace.*

MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF ARDENT SPIRITS.—What evil has it done? To record all mischiefs would take volumes. Governor Bradford enumerates the following among the evils it has inflicted upon the country within the last ten years, viz.:—It has cost in direct expense \$500,000.—It has cost in indirect expenses \$600,000.—It has destroyed 300,000 lives.—It has sent 100,000 children to the poor

LIBERTY STANDARD.

"Proclaim Liberty throughout all the land, unto all the inhabitants thereof."—Leviticus 23:10.

VOL. IV.

HALLOWELL, MAINE, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1845.

NO. 30.

WAR OF THE MIRROR ON THE LIBERTY PARTY.

The following characteristic article was written some time since by the editor of the Christian Mirror in reply to an excellent communication from a correspondent. We publish it now to explain an article inside, which was rejected by that paper, and also to afford the Liberty Party in Maine, as well as elsewhere, the means of estimating more fully the character and sources of the hostility arrayed against it. The correspondent expressed the opinion that Mr. Cummings must have evidence against Mr. Birney which had not been made public.

YANCEY, who lately fought a bloodless duel with Clingman of North Carolina, is said to have killed an uncle of his wife not long since, for which he was sentenced to 12 years confinement in the Penitentiary. The Governor of Alabama immediately pardoned him, and the people then elected him to Congress!

Nothing is more sincerely to be deplored than that men should be had in great honor despite of their great wickedness! What are our laws good for if we send the most notorious law-breakers to Washington to make them? If the Bible is true, "the people must mourn" for this.

INSANE HOSPITAL.

We have received the reports of the several officers of this institution, and have been much interested by their perusal. We publish below the report of the Trustees, by which it will be seen that the affairs of the Hospital are in a prosperous condition. It also appears by these reports that but a very few of the insane persons in the state, compared with the whole number, enjoy the benefits of a residence at the Hospital. For the comfort of this unfortunate class of persons the Hospital is in a prosperous condition. It also appears by these reports that but a very few of the insane persons in the state, compared with the whole number, enjoy the benefits of a residence at the Hospital. For the comfort of this unfortunate class of persons the Hospital is in a prosperous condition.

TRUSTEES' REPORT.

The Trustees of the Maine Hospital at Augusta, in compliance with the provisions of the act of March 22d, 1843, make to the Governor and Council the following Report.

That during the past year Mrs. Maynard resigned the office of matron, and Mrs. Maria Johnson has been appointed to that situation.

At the last settlement, made Nov. 30th there was a balance of \$53.06 in the Treasurer's hands, and the balances due to the institution were \$3,334.40.

The number of patients at our last annual visit on the 25th and 26th of Dec. last, was 81—50 males and 31 females.

From this statement it is seen that the financial condition of the institution is now very nearly the same as it was last year.—

There was then due to the Treasurer \$206.70 which he has paid; and there is now due from patients \$339.42 less than was last year.

Within the year \$550 was received from the State, part of which was expended in making and painting a picket fence around the Hospital, and the residue in other improvements and repairs.

The charge for female patients has been continued at \$150 per week, as proposed in our last report, and their number has been increased from 23 to 31, and there is yet room for 20 more. If the rooms were filled and all the patient's bills could be collected, there would be no occasion for aid from the State, and even now the Trustees do not propose to ask any more than \$300 to cover the expense of boarding and clothing, for the past year, John Wheeler, Ellen Herbert, and Geo. W. Lever, (who are unable to pay, and have no settlement within the State,) and Moses Butterfield, who was sent to the Hospital, under the Resolve of March 19, 1844, and who has not sufficient property to support himself. Should the number of female patients be much enlarged, additions of furniture for their comfort and accommodation must be made, but the Trustees will not ask an appropriation for that object at present.

The affairs of the institution are well managed, and all of the officers discharge their duties faithfully and promptly; and it is to be regretted that more of our citizens who are suffering the ills and tortures incident to the insane, when out of the Hospital, are not sent here for restoration and the advantages of this institution.

Letters were addressed by one of the Trustees, early in the season, to the overseers of the poor in all the cities and towns in the State, asking information as to the number of insane persons and idiots in their respective cities and towns, the average weekly expense of their support, and what number of them were supported by themselves or friends, and what number by the towns. Answers have been received from only 153 out of 357 towns written to, and some of these are so defective upon some points as to render it difficult to arrive at satisfactory conclusions; but from this it is seen that in

Insane. Idiots.

12 towns in York county there are 48 46

10 " Cumberland " 33 36

19 " Liucohn " 51 61

15 " Oxford 15 26

7 " Somerset " 9 4

5 " Aroostook " 2 3

14 " Kennebec 45 29

4 " Waldo " 9 2

14 " Penobscot " 9 13

7 " Franklin " 6 8

16 " Piscataquis " 7 7

16 " Hancock " 21 28

14 " Washington " 8 6

263 269

If the number of insane persons and idiots,

in towns not heard from, should be according

to their population, as in the towns above

stated, there would be 613 insane, and 627

idiots in the whole state, which is nearly double

the number given in the last census, and

much greater than has been generally supposed,

and calls loudly upon the Legislature to

ascertain if the fact be so, and to make such

further provision for their comfort and res-

toration as the deplorable condition of most

of them demands.

REUEL WILLIAMS,

LEVI J. HAM,

MOSES MASON,

J. H. HARTWELL.

Augusta, Dec. 31, 1844.

INHUMAN.—The Nashville Whig of the

20th ult., says that the keeper of a liquor shop

in that city, caused two little boys, brothers,

to drink raw whisky for a trifling wager, the

consequence of which was the death of one of

the two, and the stupefaction of the other, on

the spot! This was truly the act of a fiend.

years old, named Amanda, whom I brought with me from Alabama." These are all that are named in this deed, which is dated June 2, 1834, and which brought Mr. B. into public notice as an abolitionist. He is understood to have sold the mass of his slaves before leaving Alabama. The two notes of \$250 each, which he took on the sale of Charles, are dated July 8, 1834—about five weeks after emancipating the six mentioned above. It seems hardly probable that the pressure of poverty could have been so great as to compel him to sell Charles. Those which he inherited from his father, did not come into his possession till 1839, when he was receiving a competent salary as Anti-Slavery agent, and, of course, did not need the avails of their

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Correspondence.

For the Liberty Standard.

HOW IT IS DONE.

February 15, 1844.

MR. WILLEY.—I learn from the proceedings of the recent Anti-Slavery assemblage at Hallowell, that some special effort is needed to sustain the anti-slavery press in Maine—and that such efforts are about to be forth.

I am perfectly satisfied that the anti-slavery cause cannot be sustained without the influence of the press. And that the cause of the liberty party will advance only as the influence of the liberty press is diffused. We may as well attempt to convert the world to Christianity without a knowledge of the Bible, as to bring men to a correct understanding and right action in the cause of human liberty without laying before them the whole subject with all the facts as it can be done only by the press. The man therefore who does the most to bring the influence of the liberty press in contact with the patriotic minds of our fellow citizens will do the most to hasten the extinction of slavery, and the triumph of freedom.

Take the following facts. A few years since a devoted and ardent friend of the cause of emancipation subscriber for the Liberty Standard. These he distributed as he could find men to take them. One copy he put into a family consisting of a father and three sons, all opposed to anti-slavery measures.—Now all four are voting abolitionists. Another copy he put into another family of four sons, with the same results. Not one of these were swallowed in the whirlpool of Whiggery, or borne off in the tornado of Democracy at our late election. The mothers and daughters in these two families are, in their sphere, as devoted and laborious in the good cause as the husbands and sons. Let every friend of true and universal freedom having the means go and do likewise, and slavery will soon be constrained to hide its hideous visage.

F—

For the Liberty Standard.

MR. WILLEY.—Dear Sir:—The following communication was sent some weeks ago to the editor of the Christian Mirror with the liberty to publish it if he thought proper. I do not know that he received it, though I presume he did, and I should not trouble you with it after so long a time, did not recent "developments" make me more desirous of its publication, than when I forwarded it to him. I cannot say that this copy is precisely the same as that sent to Mr. Cummings, as that was altered in a few instances from the original draft.

REV. MR. CUMMINGS.—Dear Sir:—I had not thought of troubling you further with any remarks touching the subject of my former communication, but on perusing your comments, I felt that the matter between us ought not in justice to remain precisely in its present shape. You appear to me evidently to be under a misapprehension as to the motives and aims of the Liberty Party—or at any rate of some of those who have consented to have their names placed before the public, as candidates for offices of different grades.

But permit me before doing this to say that I do not think you met fully the two points of chief prominence in my former communication, viz: Mr. Birney's obligation to redeem the slave Charles, at his own cost, and my request for light on the implied charge of concealed guilt. The first point you do not notice at all; that I perceive; while you leave him under the same blasting suspicion of crimes of the darkest character—the recital of which would make the ears of his "idolizers" tingle—admitting at the same time, that your knowledge is not of that "despicable" kind which makes it allowable to use it in public. As to the "indisputable facts" you speak of, implying of course facts derogatory to Mr. B.'s christian character, which have been for a length of time "before the public and not yet disproved," I can only say that I am totally in the dark respecting them. The only definite charge, which I recollect to have seen in the Christian Mirror, bearing at all in this direction, which has not been disproved, is that of his having sold Charles; but I cannot suppose that is all you meant by tinging facts. Any light, which time and inclination will permit you to throw on this subject, will be thankfully received, as I write not for strife, but for truth and justice, if I know my own intentions.

Will you now indulge me in a few observations on other portions of your comments—excusing the apparent abruptness of my remarks for the sake of brevity.

That Mr. Leavitt might be so incautious, as to say in his address "that the Liberty Party never nominated any man who used profane language, is very possible; but the assertion proves pretty clearly to my mind, (admitting Mr. L. to be a man of common veracity,) viz: that he knew of no candidate who was profane; and also, that he would not agree in nominating any one, who, to his knowledge, was guilty of profanity.

And my testimony on this subject would be the same, and my opinion of the relative purity of the different parties is quite different from yours, though I am far from maintaining that the Liberty party, or its candidates, are all that could be desired.

You speak of the candidates of the Liberty Party in general, as aspirants for political office, equally with the candidates of the other great parties. I did not suppose that a man of your understanding could entertain such a thought. You surely must have more faith in the speedy consummation of the abolition project than I have, to justify such an opinion. And as the reward of that faith, I hereby pledge to the editor of the Christian Mirror, all the emoluments accruing from my nomination, for his sole use and behoof; or to be invested in \$10 shares in that paper, to be expended in supplying, in part, the desuetude of religious instruction in the spiritual wastes of our States, and, henceforth, should he not advocate my election, or at any rate, when he contends that the abolition candidates are no better than the corresponding ones in the other parties, if he is not particular to except his present correspondent, I shall know that he is acting disinterestedly.

You assign as a principal reason for Mr. Birney's sinking so low in your esteem, that he changed his mind in regard to the expediency of forming a third party. I can hardly suppose you to be ignorant of the fact, that scarcely any abolitionists, in the infancy of their enterprise contemplated separate political action. The constitutions of most, if not all the societies, large and small, shut up the members to other means for the removal of slavery, and had the plan of a third party been proposed, at that time, scarcely one in a thousand, I apprehend, would have approved of it. But in the use of moral means

they were repelled. The doors of the sanctuary were closed against them. The subject of slavery could not be entertained in religious assemblies. Anti-slavery lecturers were mobbed, and there were few places in the land, where societies could meet to discuss the question of duty, without producing a riot—anti-slavery presses were destroyed, as was that of Mr. Birney in Cincinnati—and by slow degrees abolitionists became convinced, that if they would retain their own rights, they must take political ground. Yet after all, when the question of forming a third political party was first agitated in our State Society, it seemed to meet with favor from a small part only of the members; and now I know of but one abolition minister in the State, who opposes political action in behalf of the slave. Is it then a thing so disreputable in Mr. Birney, admitting that he used language similar to what you have stated, respecting the consequences of political organization by the abolitionists, that in view of all the circumstances, his opinion on the single question of the expediency of forming a third party should change, while in regard to the final result, it may still be the same as you have stated, and without any inconsistency, perhaps. For though I am no prophet, I venture to predict much the same state of things, provided the *Liberty Party is successful*, that Mr. Birney did. But the end is not yet, and may not be until you and I and most of those who are now aiding or opposing the abolition cause, are at rest from the turmoils of life. The history of the third party, I have always supposed in case the slaves' deliverance should come by that means would be something after this sort. So long as the party continues small and weak and contemptible in the eyes of the other parties and can hold out no hope of reward in the way of political offices, none but the sincere friends of the slaves will join, and honest and unambitious men will be nominated for the different offices; but when the year of its triumph approaches, political demagogues from the old parties will throng to our aid, clamorous for universal liberty, and those who have borne the burden and heat of the conflict with slavery, will be thrust aside and chided by these fresh recruits for their want of zeal in the good cause, and Absalom-like, will persuade the people to make them judges and rulers in the land if they would have slavery speedily abolished. And I have no doubt when that state of things arrives, that liberty will soon be proclaimed to all the inhabitants of the land; for such men will do the bidding of any party that is able to give them office whether they have any sympathy with their principles or not; and I am persuaded that most of those who at present compose the liberty party care but little who get the offices, eventually, provided the slaves obtain their freedom. But I have my fears that slavery is not to be terminated in this peaceful way. That our offence has already become too rank to be expiated without a sorer retribution than God has yet measured out to us. That there will yet be found a darker chapter in our country's history, pertaining to the termination of this wickedness, than would be that, even in your estimation, which should record the triumph of abolitionism.

I had taken note with a view of offering a few remarks upon your apparent fondness of speaking of abolitionists in general, as "idolizers" of Mr. Birney. Is this candid?—May not his friends be allowed to vindicate his character from the aspersions of his enemies, without being charged with idolatry, as well as yours? May we not presume that their voluntary defence of his good name is as soothing to his lacerated feelings, as those overflows of good will, and expressions of high regard towards yourself, which we frequently witness in the Mirror are to yours? Surely, my dear Sir, you cannot be unwilling to have kindness meted to others with the same measure that you love to have it measured to yourself. If sentiments of profound esteem for Mr. Birney and Mr. C. M. Clay, and all others who have made similar sacrifices in the cause of freedom be idolatry, then I plead guilty to the charge, and I would that such idols were multiplied a thousand fold.

Allow me to express the hope, that the time may yet come when we shall see eye to eye on the subject which now divides us so widely in sentiment, though I trust not in Christian sympathies.

B.

For the Liberty Standard.

Cumberland County and the Liberty Standard.

Subscribers in this county will remember the resolution passed at the State meeting.—We must double the subscription before the meeting at Portland. This can be done!—Next Monday is town meeting—let each subscriber obtain another on that day. If any town fails to do this, let them raise a committee to explore the town during the week. Post up notice at the town meeting for a meeting of the "Liberty Association," on the Saturday following. All come together. If you have no "Association," organize one—order the Standard to every member—make a delegation of the whole to the meeting in the city. Bro. Willey will meet you there—grasp his hand closely, and it won't hurt him if you leave in it two dollars to pay his debts with, or buy bread for his children; and take home the Standard, and send back the Advertiser, Argus, and Mirror, to their editors, as abolitionists are doing and have done in this town.

If you can think of a better plan than this, in any town, adopt it. But do something before the county meeting!

Doing business for the County Com.

THE WHIGS AND TEXAS.—Can the Whigs, after all their professions, be relied on to oppose the annexation inquiry? The Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Tribune says—"Many of them (the Whigs in the Senate) have no personal objection to Texas, provided it can be annexed decently and in order, and according to the constitution." So, slavery is no more an objection with them than it was with Mr. Clay. While we are disposed to credit the sincerity of the Whigs of the North, generally, who oppose annexation, the unconvincing grow every day deeper, that the only hope we now have of preventing annexation, is in the rapid increase of the Liberty party. Let it be made clearly manifest both to Whigs and Democrats, by the sure growth of the Liberty party, that a day of reckoning for all slaveholders is at hand, and they will be increasingly careful to keep out of that category.—*Christian Freeman.*

MORE ANNEXATION. A petition was yesterday presented in the House of Representatives by Mr. Severance, from a number of respectable citizens of the state of Maine, praying for the "re-annexation" of the province of New Brunswick to the U. States.—*National Intelligencer.*

Rev. GEORGE B. CHEEVER was at Charleston, S. C., on the 25th ultimo, having arrived there from Cuba to which place he sailed from Havre, three months since, hoping to meet there a sick brother, whose death, however, occurred before his arrival. A letter from Mr. Cheever from which we gather these facts, appears in the New York Evangelist of this week. It contains a most touching and beautifully written notice of his late brother's character and death.

No pledge of party service was asked—None was given. I repeat to you, I am not under any obligation, in the infancy of their enterprise contemplated separate political action. The constitutions of most, if not all the societies, large and small, shut up the members to other means for the removal of slavery, and had the plan of a third party been proposed, at that time, scarcely one in a thousand, I apprehend, would have approved of it. But in the use of moral means

THE STANDARD.

HALLOWELL, ME. FEBRUARY 27, 1845.

"There is no ground for either of these assertions. I neither solicited the nomination, nor made any promises to support democratic men or democratic measures. What is more, I do not believe I have a neighbor or relative base enough to give currency to such a falsehood."

The full and solemn declarations were repeated again and again in his Faneuil Hall speech, and in all his public addresses in Massachusetts and New York, and adding also that he never was a member of the democratic party; and all these statements were within the knowledge of those editors—all had been in their hands. We submit, then, to the people of Maine, who has stated falsely, and who is found unworthy of public confidence.

They also knew Mr. Birney's long tried and acknowledged integrity of character; they knew the inherent absurdity of the forged letter; they were warned by intelligent whigs in this vicinity not to publish it, as its character was obvious; the Portland Advertiser had denounced it as a forgery, and it was conceded to be such in this community without an exception, so far as we know; yet those editors continued to fill the State with that damnable forgery up nearly to the very day of the election! And if any thing were wanting to cap the climax, and settle the evidence in the case, it is their refusal to publish Mr. Birney's defense. We have not done with this subject yet.

CARY AND THE BLUE-NOSES.

The Bangor Democrat thinks we belong to the Hartford Convention politicians because we wished Cary had been set off to the "blue-noses." These "democrats" have a curious way of crying out, Hartford Conventionism, when their servility to the overseers and perfidy to the constitution are exposed. We would gladly have given the whole town of Houlton to have avoided the disgrace to our State of that fellow's votes on Texas and Oregon.

It is said the inhabitants of the Ferro Isles punish a certain class of infamous crimes by composing a song respecting the criminals, and teaching it to their children till it becomes a national song to be passed down from generation to generation. We suggest that some body make a song for Cary. It would not at all violate that prediction, "The memory of the wicked shall rot," for substances thus decomposing are often quite obvious to some of the senses. Remember,

SHEPARD CARY

voted virtually for the admission of five more Slave States to this Union. It is also said that he voted against prohibiting slavery in the vast Oregon Territory.

Honesty is the best policy. It is always best to act from right principles, not daring to depart from them even in an emergency, then leave the event with Him who rules. Nothing has been more fatal to human liberty, as well as many other good causes than departures from sound principles in a crisis. Necessity is the plea of tyrants. Should Texas be annexed, that would be a far less evil than to destroy the Liberty party in the United States. Our course therefore is directly onward to the attainment of our sublime objects, unsewed, undiverted by collateral issues.

Untractable—the Proof.

It is well known to the whole country that one of the general measures concerted and adopted by the whigs in the late campaign was to make a united and simultaneous attack upon the character of Liberty party editors, to destroy confidence in them, and thus break and disperse the party. This plot completely failed, then the last and desperate assault was made upon our principal candidate for the same end. Unsuccessful as the first policy was, there seems to be great reluctance to give it up. We recently stated that the editors of the Kennebec Journal, when they published the forged letter *three times*, had Mr. Birney's positive denial of "nearly every essential statement contained in it," in their possession, or within their knowledge. This is declared by them to be another falsehood—a lie. Well, as we intend always to make our statements good, we will quote the documents.

The essential allegations of the whig forged were, that Mr. B. was a democrat and ever had been—that he was pledged to democratic men and measures—that he would be silent in the legislature respecting slavery—that he was seeking to advance the interests of the democratic party, &c. &c.; in other words, that he had formed a "coalition" with that party.

In his letter dated New York, Oct. 9, 1844, and published in the N. Y. Tribune, Mr. Birney says:

"My relation to the Liberty party, and my uncompromising opposition to both the other parties is as well understood there (at Saginaw) as elsewhere. If I have been nominated by any portion of my countrymen, (a fact he did not then certainly know) it has been neither as a democrat, nor as a whig."

Another letter dated Hamden, Conn., Oct. 10, published also in the N. Y. Tribune, Mr. B. explains the whole subject, utterly denies any degree of coalition with the democrats, says "whatever I have done was done openly," and asserts that his nomination was not a party nomination, and that no person in his county would have so regarded it had it not been for whig "wire workers."

In a letter addressed to the Liberty party, dated Boston, Oct. 15, and published in the Emancipator and Liberty Standard, with both of which the Journal exchanged, Mr. Birney says:

"No pledge of party service was asked—None was given. I repeat to you, I am not under any obligation, in the infancy of their enterprise contemplated separate political action. The constitutions of most, if not all the societies, large and small, shut up the members to other means for the removal of slavery, and had the plan of a third party been proposed, at that time, scarcely one in a thousand, I apprehend, would have approved of it. But in the use of moral means

KENNEBEC COUNTY LIBERTY CONVENTION.

The convention was well attended, and was second in interest to no other which we have had in the county. A firm and manly purpose, heightened by passing events, to prosecute our hostility to slavery, seemed to possess every mind. It seemed to be seen and felt that the crisis had come when the slave power must be met and forced to give way, or the liberties of the country must be fundamentally surrendered, and that this county must do its duty to the country and the slaves. At some periods the feelings of the meeting were strongly moved. We believe this country will not be exceeded by any other in efficient labor in our cause.

A large proportion of the towns were represented. One day was too short in which to accomplish its business fully, and this Committee of the County Liberty Association will endeavor to complete. We find we have so overlaid the matter for this paper, as to be compelled to omit the proceedings till next week.

The Religious Anti-Slavery Convention held at Winthrop the day preceding the Library Convention, was not understood by all, owing in part to our absence to Somerset County the week previous; still there was a good meeting, and the measures started will be highly useful if carried out. The preparation of that short series of tracts proposed, and by so competent a committee, among the churches of all denominations in the county, is a measure which will command itself we doubt not to the approbation of all sincere friends of the cause. Besides the aid of many excellent men from this county, Rev. Mr. Drummond of Lewiston, contributed much by his ability and sincere attachment to the cause of the injured slaves.

Resolved, That we will strive to imitate his noble example, and adopt as our motto, the language used by himself, "That it is enough for me to know that a man is a slaveholder to cause me to withhold my vote from him as a candidate for office."

On motion, a committee of five were raised to prepare business for the meeting. Mr. Richardson of Mercer, Hon. D. Farnsworth of Norridgewock, Mr. Folson of Starks, Rev. Mr. Sawyer of Augusta, and Mr. Willey of Hallowell, constituted that committee. Wm. W. Dinsmore of Norridgewock, W. Folsom of Starks, Mr. Hutchins of New Portland, were chosen a committee of nominations. Meeting adjourned to 2 o'clock, P. M.

We perceive that the religious papers are often enquiring why there are so few revivals of religion in the country. Some assign one reason, some another; but we have not noticed in any quarter, an inquiry respecting the bearing which the active agency of so large a portion of professed christians has had in setting up tyrants over the enslaved poor of the land, in paralyzing the moral sensibility and offending God. We hope some one will go into an examination of this subject, ascertaining the Divine abhorrence of oppression, and the influence which such conduct has in sustaining the worst system on earth. Among all the sins of professed christians in this land, we know of none greater than this; and since the light has shined upon it we believe it must be repented of and forsaken, before the Divine anger will be turned away.

"I will have mercy and not sacrifice."

The Press.

As no general report of the cause in this State the last year has been made, it may not be uninteresting to say that beyond our ordinary circulation we sent out nearly 1000 papers weekly during about three months. We also printed nearly 8000 extras of different kinds, and that we have distributed nearly 400,000 pages of tracts, having printed the greater proportion of them. The cost of this extra work aside from editorial and agency labor, has not been less than \$300.

We have yet a quantity of valuable tracts on the shelf which ought to be doing their work. Will our friends call for them?

The Killing Policy.

Mr. Clingman, a "glorious" whig of North Carolina, remarked as follows in a speech on annexation. The statement that Mr. Birney preferred Mr. Polk to Mr. Clay has no truth in it—the rest will do to think of, and may afford some clue to whig policy.

"He referred also to the authentic letters of James G. Birney. Mr. Birney preferred Mr. Polk to Mr. Clay, because Mr. Clay was a man of talents and Mr. Polk of no talent; and Birney was right. A man of splendid talents, of moderation and firmness, would combine the country in one whole, and of course kill political Abolitionism and other isms. A weak and inefficient Administration was just the thing to make little cliques and factions flourish."

Somerset County Agency.

By request, Dea. W. W. Dinsmore, of Norridgewock, has accepted an agency for the Liberty Standard in that county, to receive produce in payment for the paper at the current prices there. This will enable a large number of persons to take the paper who would not otherwise do it, and we hope no efforts will be spared to extend greatly its circulation in that county without delay.

A Democrat Coming.

A friend sending the name of an "old democrat" as a subscriber says: "He is almost persuaded to be an abolitionist. Conversing with him a few days since, I found he took no paper being rather poor. I asked him if he wanted one? Yes. What kind? Political. Well, the Standard is political, will you have that? Yes, had as lief have that as any. I want one that preaches the old fashioned true democracy. And he believes ours is the democracy."

Cause of the Defeat.

Poetry.

From the Western Literary Messenger.
THE SAILOR'S SICK CHILD.

BY MRS. L. H. SIGOURNEY.

Come, mother, sit beside my bed,
And of my father tell;
On the deep ocean far away,
Where foaming billows swell.
I wish that he was with us now,
While sick and faint I lie,
'Twere good to hear his loving voice,
And bless him ere I die.

Mother, it troubles me to see
Those stranger ladies come,
And urge you so to leave my side,
And work for them at home;
Methinks they coldly gaze on me,
Or shake their heads and say,
How feeble, how pale I grow,
And waste, and waste away.

And then it grieves my heart to think,
From morn till evening shade,
That you so oft, for them must toil,
And have from me no aid;
And then with tender words you say,
You wish it were not so;
But I should have no food or fire,
Unless you sometimes go.

When slow the sun sets away,
And twilight mists appear,
The sound of your returning step,
Is music to my ear.
How happy are those children dear,
Who on their couch of pain
Behold a mother always near,—
But yet I'll not complain.

There's sought on earth I love so much,
As your kind face to see,
And now, indeed, the time is short
We can together be;
Still draw me closer to your side,
And in your bosom fold,
For then my couch I do not heed,
Nor feel the winter's cold.

But when the storm is loud and wild,
I cover up my head,
And pray Almighty God to save
My father from the dead:
So in his lonely midnight watch,
Amid the tossing sea,
I think beneath the solemn stars,
He will remember me.

I know I cannot see him more,
I feel it must be so,
But he can find my little grave
Where early spring-flowers blow,
And you will comfort all his cares,
When I in Heaven shall be,
But mother—dearest—when I die,
O'le be alone with me.

Nov. 22, 1844.

From the Middlesex Standard.
THE MARTYR-POET OF CUBA.

BY JOHN G. WHITTIER.

I have recently been deeply interested in the fate of PLACIDO—the black Revolutionary of Cuba—the acknowledged leader of the late wide-spread and well-planned revolt of the slaves in the city of Havana, and the neighboring plantations and villages.

Juan Placido was born a slave on the estate of Don Terribio de Castro. His father was an African, his mother a mulatto. His mistress treated him with great kindness, and taught him to read. When he was twelve years of age, she died, and he fell into other and less compassionate hands. At the age of eighteen, on seeing his mother struck with a heavy whip, he for the first time turned upon his tormentors. To use his own words, "I felt the blow in my heart. To utter a loud cry, and from a downcast boy with the timidity of one weak as a lamb, to become all at once like a raging lion, was a thing of a moment." He was however subdued, and the next morning together with his mother—a tenderly-nurtured and delicate woman, severely scourged. On seeing his mother rudely stripped and thrown down upon the ground, he at first with tears implored the overseer to spare her, but at the sound of the first blow as it cut into her naked flesh, he sprang once more upon the ruffian who, having superior strength, beat him until he was nearer dead than alive.

After suffering all the vicissitudes of slavery—hunger, nakedness, stripes;—after bravely and nobly bearing up against that slow, dreadful process which reduces the man to a thing—the image of God to a piece of merchandise, until he had reached his thirty-eighth year he was unexpectedly released from his bonds. Some literary gentlemen in Havana, into whose hands two or three pieces of his composition had fallen, struck with the vigor, spirit and natural grace which they manifested, sought out the author, and raised a subscription to purchase his freedom. He came to Havana, and maintained himself by house-painting and such other employments as his ingenuity and talents placed within his reach. He wrote several poems, which have been published in Spanish at Havana, and translated by Dr. Madden under the title of "Poems by a Slave."

It is not too much to say of these poems that they will bear a comparison with most of the productions of modern Spanish literature. Certain it is that their author is the only Cuban poet. His style is bold, free, energetic. Some of his pieces are sportive and graceful; such is his address to "The Cucuya," or Cuban Fire-fly. This beautiful insect is sometimes fastened in tiny nets to the light dresses of the Cuban ladies, a custom to which the writer gallantly alludes in the following lines:

"Ah!—still one looks on such brightness and bloom,
On such beauty as hers one might envy the doom.

Of a captive Cucuya that's destined like this
To be touched by her hand and revived by her kiss!"

In the cage which her delicate hand has prepared,

The beautiful prisoner restless unscarred;
O'er her fair forehead shining serenely and bright,

In Beauty's own bondage revealing its light!
And when the light dance and the revel are done,

She bears it away to her alcove alone,
Where fed by her hand from the cane that's most choice,

In secret it gleams at the sound of her voice!

Oh beautiful maiden! may heaven accord
Thy care of the captive a fitting reward,

And never may fortune the fetters remove
Of a heart that is thine in the bondage of love!"

In his "Dream," a fragment of some length, he dwells in a touching manner upon the scenes of his early years. It is addressed to his brother Florence, who was a slave near Matanzas; while the author was in the same condition at Havana. There is a plaintive and melancholy sweetness in these lines, a natural pathos which finds its way to the heart:

"Thou knowest, dear Florence, my sufferings of old,

The struggles maintained with oppression for years;

We shared them together, and each was constrained

With the love which was nurtured by sorrow and tears."

But now far apart, the sad pleasure is gone,
We mingle our sighs and our sorrows no more;

The course is a new one which each has to

But in slumber our spirits at least shall commune,
We will meet as of old in the visions of sleep,
In dreams which call back early days when at noon
We stole to the shade of the palm-tree to weep!

For solitude pining, in anguish of late
The heights of Quintana I sought for repose;
And there in the cool and the silence the weight
Of my cares was forgotten, I felt not my woes.

Exhausted and weary the spell of the place
Sank down on my eye-lids, and soft slumber stole
So sweetly upon me, it left not a trace
Of sorrow o'er-casting the light of the soul."

Some of his devotional pieces evince the fervor and true feeling of the Christian poet. His "Ode to Religion," contains many admirable lines. Speaking of the martyrs of the early days of Christianity, he says finely:

"Still in that cradle purpled with their blood,
The infant Faith waxed stronger day by day."

I cannot forbear quoting the last stanza of this poem:

"Oh God of mercy, thronged in glory high,
On earth and all its misery look down,
Behold the wretched, hear the captive's cry,
And call thy exiled children round thy throne!

There would I fain in contemplation gaze
On thy eternal beauty, and would make
Of love one lasting canticle of praise,
And every theme but Thee henceforth forsake!"

His best and noblest production is an ode "To Cuba," written on the occasion of Dr. Madden's departure from the island and presented to that gentleman. It was never published in Cuba, as its sentiments would have subjected the author to persecution. It breathes a lofty spirit of patriotism, and an indignant sense of the wrongs inflicted upon his race. Withal, it has all the grandeur and stateliness of the old Spanish muse. Witness the majestic commencement:

"Cuba!—of what avail that thou art fair!
Pearl of the Seas!—The pride of the Antilles!

If thy poor sons have still to see thee share
The pangs of bondage and its thousand ills?

What avail the verdure of thy hills?—
The purple bloom thy coffee-plain displays?

Thy cane's luxuriant growth, whose culture fills
More graves than famine, or the sword finds ways

To glut with victims calmly as it slays?

Of what avail that thy clear streams abound
With precious ore, if wealth there's none to buy

Thy children's rights, and not one grain is found
For Learning's shrine, or for the altar nigh

Of poor, forsaken, downcast Liberty?—

Of what avail the riches of thy port,

Forests of masts, and ships from every sea,

If TRADE alone is free, and man, the sport

And spoil of TRADE, bears wrongs of every sort!

Art. 3. Citizens of the U. S. admitted to the five ports of Kwangchow, Hiayman, Fuchow, Mugo, and Shangiar.

Art. 4. Citizens of the U. S. to buy, sell, import and export all manner of merchandise to the Five Ports.

Art. 5. Not given.

Art. 6. Remits the tonnage duty on American ships to 5 mace per ton, if over 150 tons, and 1 mace if less. Vessels paying tonnage whatever, and the United States to participate in all future concessions to other nations by China.

Art. 7. Passenger boats exempt from tonnage duties.

Art. 8. Citizens of United States, in China, to employ pilots, servants, linguists, seamen, laborers, and packers for all necessary service.

Art. 9. Provides for employment and duties of Custom House goods for vessels in China.

Art. 10. Securities of vessels are to deposit their ship papers with the Consul, and make a report within 48 hours after the arrival in port.

Art. 11. Provides the mode of examining goods in reference to payment of duties chargeable thereon.

Art. 12. Provides for a uniformity of weights and measures, at the Five Ports.

Art. 13. Provides for the time and mode of paying duties. Tonnage duties being made on the admittance of the vessel to entry, and

Art. 14. Forbids the transhipment of goods from vessel to vessel without permit for the same.

Art. 15. Abolishes the Hong and other monopolies and restrictions on trade in China.

Art. 16. Provides for the collection of debts due from Chinese to Americans, or from Americans to Chinese, through the tribunals of the respective countries.

Art. 17. Provides for residence of citizens of the United States, their constructions of dwellings, for their houses, churches, cemeteries, hospitals, and regulates limits of residence in the five ports, &c.

Art. 18. Empowers citizens of the United States freely to employ teachers and literary assistants, and to purchase books in China.

Art. 19. Provides means for assuring the personal security of citizens of the two countries.

Art. 20. Citizens of the U. S. having paid duties on goods at the five ports may at the pleasure export the same to any other of the five ports without the payments of extra duty.

He was executed at Havana in the 7th mo. 1844. According to the custom in Cuba, with condemned criminals he was conducted from prison to the "Chapel of the Doomed." He passed thither with singular composure, amidst a great concourse of people, gracefully saluting his numerous acquaintances. The chapel was hung with black cloth, dimly lighted.

Placido was placed beside his coffin.

Priests in long black robes stood around him, chanting in sepulchral voices the service of the dead. It is an ordeal under which the stoutest-hearted and most resolute have been forced to sink. After enduring it for twenty-four hours he was led forth to execution.

Placido came forth calm and undismayed; holding a crucifix in his hand, he recited in a loud, clear voice a beautiful prayer in verse, which he had composed amidst the horrors of the "Chapel." It thrilled through the hearts of all who heard it. I am indebted to a friend for assistance in rendering this remarkable prayer into English verse:

PRAYER OF PLACIDO.

God of unbounded love and power eternal!

To Thee I turn in darkness and despair,

Stretch forth Thine arm, and from the brow

infaral

Of Calumny the veil of Justice tear!

And from the forehead of my honest fame

Pluck the world's brand of infamy and shame!

Oh King of kings!—my father's God!—who only

Art strong to save, by whom is all controlled,

Who givest the sea its waves the dark and lonely

Abyss of heaven its light, the North its cold,

The air its currents, the warm sun its beams,

All to the flowers, and motion to the streams!

But in slumber our spirits at least shall commune,

We will meet as of old in the visions of sleep,

In dreams which call back early days when at noon

We stole to the shade of the palm-tree to weep!

For through its veil of flesh Thy piercing eye

Lookest upon my spirit's unsoled essence,

As through the pure transparency of the sky;

Let not the oppressor clasp his bloody hands,

As o'er my prostrate innocence he stands!

But, if alas, it seemeth good unto Thee

That I should perish as the guilty dies,

That a cold, mangled corpse, my foes should view me
With hateful malice and exulting eyes,
Speak Thou the word, and bid them shed my blood,
Fully in me Thy will be done, O God!

On arriving at the fatal spot, he sat down as ordered, on a bench, with his back to the soldiers. The multitude recollects that in some affecting lines written by the conspirator in prison, he had said that it would be useless to seek to kill him by shooting his body—that his heart must be pierced ere it would cease its throbbings. At the last moment, just as the soldiers were about to fire, he rose up and gazed for an instant around and above him, on the beautiful capital of his native land, and its sail-backed bay, on the dense crowds about him, the blue mountains in the distance, and the sky glorious with the summer sunshine. "Adios mundo!" (Farewell world!) he said calmly, and sat down. The word was given, and five balls entered his body. Then it was that amidst the groans and murmurs of the horror-stricken spectators, he rose up once more and turned his head to the shuddering soldiers, his face wearing an expression of super-human courage. "Will no one pity me?" he said, laying his hand over his heart, "Here, fire here!" While he yet spake two balls entered his heart and he fell dead. Thus perished the hero-poet of Cuba. He has not fallen in vain. His genius, and his heroic death, are precious legacies for his race. To the great names of L'Ouverture and Petion, the colored man can now add that of Juan Placido.

THE NEW POSTAGE BILL.

The following are the main features of this bill, as it passed the Senate. There seems to be some doubt of its success in the House.

There are some objections to the bill, but it is probably the best that can be procured at this session. It may be improved hereafter. The bill makes all necessary provisions for the successful trial of the new experiment, and there will be no embarrassment for want of means as the Post Master General can draw upon the Treasury to relieve all deficiencies.

1. All single letters, without regard to distance shall pay the uniform rate of postage of five cents.

2. Every letter weighing no more than half an ounce shall be deemed a single letter, no matter how many pieces it may contain, and between that and one ounce shall be deemed double, and so on.

3. Members of Congress to receive and send letters free, all the year round.

4. No one else to frank, except Ex-Presidents and their widows.

5. All letters and packets, &c., which are free through the mail, and all Government postage to be paid for out of the Treasury.

6. Newspapers to go out of the mail without subjecting the senders or carriers to any penalty.

7. Private posts for carrying newspapers to be allowed.

8. All deficiencies between the revenue of the Department and the expenses (limited to four and a half millions,) to be paid out of the public Treasury.

9. No private mails for the regular transmission of letters over mail routes, to be allowed, under heavy penalties.

10. All newspapers of 1900 square inches or less to go free for 30 miles from the place where printed; between that and 100 miles, half a cent postage; over 100 miles one cent.

11. Newspapers to have a free exchange as heretofore.

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